

## Branch Program—Weds, Oct. 9

### *Citizens Utility Board*

#### PROGRAM

Weds, Oct 9

6:45 pm

*CUB*

First Church  
of Lombard

Are you concerned about utility rates? Join us October 9 to hear from Jim Chilsen, the Communication Director of the Citizens Utility Board (CUB). Jim will inform us about methods of saving money on cell phone costs, and how to improve on our cable costs. Additionally he'll share information regarding the new Smart Meters being installed by ComEd. The audience is welcome to ask questions---so be sure to bring yours about utilities and how CUB helps us keep costs down.

Our meet & greet begins at 6:45pm, followed by a short business meeting. CUB program will start at 7:30pm.

#### *What is CUB?*

The Illinois General Assembly created CUB in 1983, and gave the nonprofit, nonpartisan organization a mission to represent the interests of residential utility customers across the state. The statute directs CUB to carry out that mission by intervening in ratemaking proceedings before the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC), in the courts and other public bodies, and by providing consumers with information and assistance regarding their utility companies.

Since its inception, CUB has been doing just that—working for lower rates and better service from the state's investor-owned electric, gas and telephone companies. Over the last 29 years, CUB has saved consumers more than \$10 billion by blocking rate hikes and winning consumer refunds.

*Sandra Henry & Heidi Koberstine*  
*Vice-Presidents, Programs*



## Yearbook Corrections

Please fix:

- ◇ p.4 Our web site is Lombard-il.aauw.net
- ◇ p.5 Association Convention is in 2015
- ◇ p.13 The April meeting is on the 12th
- ◇ p.17 Mary Ann Grady's provider is comcast.net

Please contact Bebe at 629-0911 or [tbmoss@comcast.net](mailto:tbmoss@comcast.net) to report any other errors.

If you have taken books to be delivered, please don't put them in a safe place.  
*Bebe Mosillo*

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

AAUW Funds is the world's largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women. The Funds also work to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.

## Branch Officers

**President:**

Barb Kozi

**Co VPs/Program:**

Sandra Henry &  
Heidi Koberstine

**Co VPs/Membership:**

Danielle Byron &  
Denise Fruhauf

**Secretary:**

Nancy Stewart

**Director of Finance:**

Carol Hester

**Newsletter & Web Site:**

Leslie Sulla

## More information

**Our branch:**

[lombard-il.aauw.net](http://lombard-il.aauw.net)

**State:**

[aauw-il.aauw.net](http://aauw-il.aauw.net)

**National:**

[www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org)

**AAUW Member Help:**

800/821-4364

[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org)

## President's Letter

What an exciting meeting in September! I know that many of you attended, and I hope that you were as impressed as I was with our speaker, Daniele Hoffman, LAF plaintiff in a sexual assault against the military case that we are helping to support. Her courage in being willing to share her story is exceptional. See Laurie Driscoll's report below on how much money was raised for LAF that evening.

The Board has begun discussion of a **possible new interest group**, and I would welcome your feedback. We would like to start a group focused on in-depth study of AAUW policy issues, such as Community College Issues, Pay Equity, Bullying, and STEM. We are all aware that these are AAUW priorities, but what can we do in our local areas to move them forward. We are not always sure. This group would use the Association's Program in a Box resources to help us learn more and focus on local action. It might take two or three meetings or more to really get a handle on an issue; that would be fine. Or, we might move on to another issue when we feel we have done all we can on the first.

Needless to say, the above initiative would need someone in a leadership position. This member would be welcome to attend Board meetings if she wished but would not be required to do so. I envision this group meeting once a month, but it could meet more often if the members wished. If you would like to lead such a group, or just want more information, please give me a call so we can discuss it (630.620.0352). And think up a catchy name for the group!

Our October program will be useful to all of us, since we are all consumers. Please read the description on the front page. A Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) representative will lead an interactive discussion of what they do and how we can benefit. Bring your friends and neighbors.

*Barbara Kozi*  
*President*

## AAUW Funds—LAF collections in September!!

We collected money for the Legal Advocacy during our September meeting. Evidently, our program touched many people. Here's a breakdown of what we collected:

Lombard Branch: \$660, Elmhurst: \$770, Downers Grove: \$187, other branches: \$155 -- **for a grand total of \$1772!!** Well done everyone!

## AAUW Illinois Impact Grant Planning — STEM

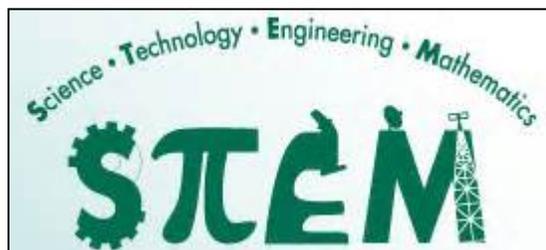
October 23, 6pm: Elgin

National AAUW gave AAUW-Illinois an Impact Grant to work on STEM and Social Security. There will be coalition planning for activities to implement this award. The goal is to increase visibility for AAUW Illinois and begin to develop policy and change awareness regarding STEM and Social Security in our branch areas. Branch member Kathryn Tecza will be going to this meeting.

Call or email Kathryn Tecza if you would like to attend the meeting on October 23 with her.

[kathyinlisle@comcast.net](mailto:kathyinlisle@comcast.net)

630-971-0661



## Dare to Dream



We have big news! The ***Dare to Dream: Get Educated*** Conference for 2014 will be held at the **College of Du Page** on **Saturday, January 25, 2014**. We are very excited about our new venue for our sixth annual Conference. Last year over 400 eighth grade Latinas and their moms attended the Conference, which received excellent reviews.

**A couple volunteers are needed** to help line up the speakers for the Career Track Panels. The work is much easier since we have already created most of our information on the computer and have many Latina professionals who participate each year. Please call either of us if you can make this commitment. We both agree that it is the most rewarding AAUW project we have ever worked on. We also welcome your monetary contributions. Remember Dare to Dream is a 501(c)(3) corporation now, so your gift is tax deductible.

Make your check to Dare to Dream and give to Kathy or Doris, or mail to P.O. Box 328, Elmhurst, IL 60126. You also have the option of donating online at <http://www.latinaconference.org>

Thanks in advance for your support of a Conference that has already impacted many Latina middle school girls and their mothers and has so positively affected the lives of those of us who have been involved.

Kathy Brenniman, 630/627-5180, [kfbrenn@aol.com](mailto:kfbrenn@aol.com)

Doris Schertz, 630/629-2695, [dcschertz@comcast.net](mailto:dcschertz@comcast.net)

*Dare to Dream Co-chairs*

## Six in the City — Oct 6 — Cantigny: Civil War Encampment

Come see Living History as re-enactors portray soldiers and civilians, including Abraham Lincoln, Mary Todd Lincoln and Harriet Tubman, who interact with visitors. See a Civil War cannon fire and watch a surgeon at work. The Battlefield Balladeers perform songs from the Civil War era and educational activities are available for all ages.



Enjoy lunch at 12:30 pm at the Fairway Grill overlooking the golf course, then carpool to the entrance (\$5 per car) for the outdoor activities. If it rains, we'll tour the McCormick Home and/or WWI Museum on the grounds. Carpool from Doris' (321 W. Edward, Lombard) at 12:00pm.

RSVP to Doris Schertz, [dcschertz@comcast.net](mailto:dcschertz@comcast.net)

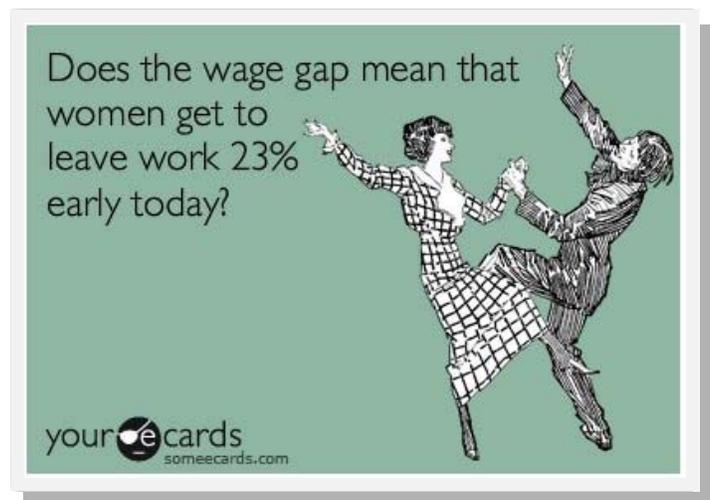
**When:** Sun, Oct. 6

**Where:** Cantigny Park

1S151 Winfield Road, Wheaton  
(630) 668-5161

**Cost:** Free; parking \$5

**Website:** [www.cantigny.org](http://www.cantigny.org)



## Ways and Means—Carson's Community Sale Days!

The Ways & Means Committee will be selling Carson's Community Sale Days booklets for \$5.00 at our October & November general meetings. The event will be held on Friday, November 16 & Saturday, November 17. We ask for your support since all proceeds from the sale of the booklets go to further the goals of the Lombard AAUW. Depending on our pre-sales, we may also sell at Carsons in Yorktown in November.

*Ellen Dassow & Marge Ostendorf,  
Ways & Means*

## Public Policy

### Things change. Why not the wage gap?

The U.S. Census Bureau just announced that the wage gap hasn't budged from 23 cents. A woman working full time, year-round still typically takes home 77 cents for every dollar a man takes home. The gap is even worse for women of color. In the federal report for 2012 just issued, the Illinois median ranking for full-time workers reports that out of 51,262 men and 40,309 women that were surveyed, the **earnings ratio between men and women is 79%**. Where do we rank in the U.S.? Well, Wyoming has the worst earnings ratio with 64%, and Washington, D.C. has the best -- women earning 90% of the earnings of men. A statistic that is sure to make you want to take action is that in the Illinois 6th Congressional District (Rep. Roskam, R) the earnings ratio is 66% — near as bad as the worst state in the U.S.! **The 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District is dead last in the earnings ratio between men and women in Illinois.** (Many Lombard Area members are in the 6th District; others are in the 8th district led by Tammy Duckworth.)

The wage gap has an impact on young college women, as well. Last year, AAUW did a study that looked at the earnings of women and men just one year out of college, a time when few women or men are making choices about having children, taking care of elderly parents, or working fewer hours. Taking into account all the factors that have been shown to affect pay, the report found that women are paid an unexplained 6.6 percent less than men doing the exact same work.

If you do the math, you'll find that 6.6 percent of an average man's earnings one year out of college comes to just over \$2,800. That amount of money could buy

- Nearly a year's worth of groceries
  - More than 750 gallons of gas
- 1,400 tall Starbucks coffees (don't judge!)

Even in lucrative careers like information technology, research shows women are still likely to be paid less just because they're women.

Okay, what can **the women of AAUW Lombard Area** do about the pay gap? For two years, the U.S. Department of Labor has been saying it will develop a new tool to collect information on salaries, wages, and other benefits for employees of federal contractors. This tool is essential to giving workers and employers the information they need to end pay discrimination, and it will give the Department of Labor the information it needs to make sure companies that are receiving our tax dollars are following the law. Urge the Department of Labor to speed up its work on this data collection tool today!

The fastest, easiest way to take action is to **join the AAUW Two Minute Activist** online. As your Public Policy Chair, I will help by pointing to links online where you can compose and send your sample letters or personal letters to the agency that will have the most impact on specific issues. But you must join the Two Minute Activist to make this fight for fairness effective. The National AAUW website homepage is so full of information that the easiest search is to go there and just key in the words **two minute activist** in the search box on the upper right-hand corner of the homepage. Up will come the page you want and the link to join the Two Minute Activist. Fill in the information and you are all set to make a difference in the lives of women. Do it now. It only takes a minute. We can't let discrimination continue for women in our own communities.

*Kathryn Tecza, Public Policy Chair*

## Branch Calendar

Mon, Oct. 14 7 pm	<b>Lit Wits</b> <u>The Disappearing Spoon</u> by Sam Kean	Trademark Tavern, 777 E. Butterfield, Lombard
Weds, Oct. 9 7 pm	<b>General Program</b> Citizens Utility Board (CUB) —see front page	First Church of Lombard
Mon, Oct. 21 7 pm	<b>Board Meeting</b>	COP Center—Yorktown
Fri, Oct. 18 1 pm	<b>Literature</b> <u>The Widow's War</u> by Sally Gunning	Barb K's
Thurs, Oct. 24 7 pm	<b>Mystery Buffs</b> Books by Jasper Fforde (Tuesday Next series)	Barb K's
Sat, Oct 26 9am—12:15pm	<b>Districts #4 &amp; #5 Joint Fall Meeting</b> (Registration form in Illinois Link newsletter— online at <a href="http://aauw-il.aauw.net">aauw-il.aauw.net</a> )	Oakton Community College, Des Plaines
Sat & Sun, Nov. 16—17	<b>Carson Community Sale Days</b> Buy booklets at our Oct. & Nov. meetings.	All Carsons stores

### New AAUW Merchandise!

AAUW has the new logo, so there's lots of new merchandise for you to check out!

Find new notepads, pens, pins, mugs, and more, at [aauw.source4.com/b2c/Sites/AAUWMember/Home.asp](http://aauw.source4.com/b2c/Sites/AAUWMember/Home.asp)  
Or, there's an easy link on the right side of the new [lombard-il.aauw.net](http://lombard-il.aauw.net) site.

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